

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 157-75  
8 OCTEER 1975

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 157-75.4

1. LEBANON: INCREASED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE ROLE OF PRESIDENT FRANJIYAH DURING THE RECENT CRISIS HAS SPURRED CALLS FOR HIS RESIGNATION. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO INDICATION THAT HE PLANS TO RESIGN SOON. IF HE SHOULD DECIDE TO LEAVE OFFICE, SOME LEBANESE BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT WOULD CHOOSE INTERIOR MINISTER CAMILE SHAMUN TO REPLACE FRANJIYAH. SHAMUN PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS PRESIDENT FROM 1952 TO 1958, AND HE APPARENTLY HAS BEEN PLAYING AN EFFECTIVE ROLE IN PRESERVING THE FRAGILE CEASE-FIRE. MODERATE CHRISTIAN RAYMOND EDDE PROBABLY CONSIDERS HIMSELF A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, BUT HE IS NOT BELIEVED TO HAVE ENOUGH SUPPORT AMONG THE CHRISTIANS.4

= LAST WEEK, EDDE AND MODERATE MUSLIM SAIB SALAM WERE THREATENING TO RESIGN FROM THE 20-MEMBER NATIONAL CONCILIATION COMMITTEE IN AN EFFORT TO FORCE FRANJIYAH'S RESIGNATION. WHILE THEIR THREATENED DEFECTION FAILED TO MATERIALIZE, THE ISSUE COULD RESURFACE WHEN THE COMMITTEE RECONVENES ON THURSDAY.4

THE PUSH FOR FRANJIYAH'S REMOVAL IS A SYMPTOM OF THE FRUSTRATION

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IN POLITICAL CIRCLES OVER THE DIFFICULTY OF COMING TO GRIPS WITH THE CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM POWER-SHARING ISSUE, WHICH IS AT THE ROOT OF THE CRISIS. MOST MUSLIMS WOULD LIKE TO SEE FRANJIYAH REPLACED BY A CHRISTIAN LESS IDENTIFIED WITH THE RIGHT-WING PHALANGES PARTY, WHICH HAS BEEN RESISTING THE MUSLIM EFFORT TO MODIFY THE 1943 NATIONAL COVENANT. MANY CHRISTIANS MAY ALSO BELIEVE THAT REMOVAL OF THE PRESIDENT IS NECESSARY TO PAVE THE WAY FOR A COMPROMISE GRANTING THE MUSLIMS A GREATER SHARE OF POLITICAL POWER, BUT THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY MAY SPLIT ON THIS ISSUE.

SPORADIC FIGHTING OCCURRED ON TUESDAY BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM MILITIA ELEMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS OF BEIRUT AND IN THE TRIPOLI-ZAGHARTA REGION IN NORTHERN LEBANON. THE INABILITY OF THE SECURITY FORCES TO RESTORE ORDER IN THESE AREAS MAY PRESAGE ANOTHER WIDESPREAD OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING WHEN THE MUSLIM RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY ENDS LATER THIS WEEK. {SECRET}

2.//ISRAEL: IN A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH AN ISRAELI NEWSPAPER, CHIEF OF STAFF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GUR INDICATED THAT AMONG HIS MAJOR CONCERNS ARE THE IMMEDIATE THREAT FROM SYRIA AND ITS POTENTIAL

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//THE GENERAL VIEWED IN POSITIVE TERMS JORDAN'S DECISION TO PURCHASE HAWK SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. HE SAID THAT IF JORDAN HAS TO HAVE THEM, IT IS BETTER THAT THEY COME FROM THE US--INFERRING HE HOPES FOR SOME DEGREE OF US CONTROL OVER THEIR DEPLOYMENT.//4

//TURNING TO OTHER ARAB STATES, THE GENERAL SAW SAUDI ARABIA AND LIBYA AS HAVING THE POTENTIAL FOR MAJOR INVOLVEMENT IN A FUTURE CONFLICT. IN PARTICULAR, HE IS CONCERNED THAT LIBYA'S ACQUISITION OF SUBMARINES AND SURFACE UNITS COULD COMPLICATE ISRAEL'S NAVAL PROBLEMS.//Y

//GUR SPECULATED THAT A FUTURE CONFLICT MIGHT BEGIN WITH A WAR OF ATTRITION ON THE EASTERN FRONT THAT COULD ESCALATE INTO GENERAL FIGHTING. AS AN ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, HE INDICATED THAT THE SINAI FRONT COULD ERUPT BECAUSE OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS IN EGYPT, AND THAT SUCH A CONFLICT WAS LIKELY TO SPREAD TO THE EASTERN FRONT. HE ALSO SAW THE INTRODUCTION OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SYSTEMS AS DEMANDING A HIGHER DEGREE OF TACTICAL

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SOPHISTICATION THAT WOULD MAKE THE CLASSICAL USE OF ARMOR MORE  
DIFFICULT.//4

//FROM GUR'S COMMENTS, IT SEEMS THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE LIKELY TO FOCUS MORE ATTENTION ON THE EASTERN FRONT AS THE SINAI AGREEMENT IS IMPLEMENTED AND IN THE ABSENCE OF PROGRESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT WITH SYRIA. THE ISRAELIS WILL PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN MILITARY COOPERATION AND SYRIAN EFFORTS TO INVOLVE LEBANON IN THE EASTERN FRONT-WITHOUT, OF COURSE, PLAYING DOWN THE EGYPTIAN THREAT. ~~UNCONFIDENTIAL~~ E-2 IMPDET.H

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 157-75.4

COSTA RICA: //CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTIES ARE TAKING STEPS TO TRAIN FUTURE LEADERS IN THE LABOR FIELD. COMMUNIST LABOR BOSSES GATHERED IN COSTA RICA LAST MONTH UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THAT COUNTRY'S COMMUNIST LABOR GROUPING, THE GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS (CGT), AND AGREED TO A THREE-TIERED TRAINING REGIMEN.//4

//THE DELEGATES DECIDED THAT BASIC TRAINING WILL CONTINUE TO BE DONE BY LOCAL UNIONS IN EACH COUNTRY. THE BEST PROSPECTS WILL BE SENT TO THE CENTRAL AMERICAN TRADE UNION SCHOOL IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL TRAINING AND FURTHER INDOCTRINATION IN COMMUNIST LABOR STRATEGY. GRADUATES OF THIS SCHOOL WILL BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND THE SOON-TO-OPEN TRADE UNION SCHOOL IN HAVANA.//4

//THE CENTRAL AMERICAN TRADE UNION SCHOOL IS RUN JOINTLY BY THE CGT AND THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (WFTU). SENIOR CGT OFFICIALS TEACH THE STUDENTS AND THE WFTU FINANCES THE SCHOOL WITH MONEY FROM THE SOVIETS. THE SCHOOL OPERATES ONLY ONE MONTH A YEAR, BUT PUTS 30 OR SO STUDENTS THROUGH THE COURSE EACH SESSION. ORIGINALLY, THE SCHOOL WAS RUN CLANDESTINELY AND THE TRAINING WAS

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HEAVY IN CONSPIRATORIAL DOCTRINE. SINCE ITS START EIGHT YEARS AGO, IT HAS COME ABOVE GROUND AND BECOME BETTER KNOWN IN LATIN LABOR CIRCLES. THIS YEAR IT SUCCEEDED IN GETTING CLASSROOM SPACE AT COSTA RICA'S NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. SEVERAL IMPORTANT NON-COMMUNIST LEADERS HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE SCHOOL AND MOST REPORTEDLY HAVE RETURNED HOME EITHER AS CONVINCED COMMUNISTS OR ACTIVE SYMPATHIZERS.4

//THE COSTA RICAN CGT IS PARTICULARLY QUALIFIED TO RUN THE SCHOOL. IT IS PROBABLY THE STRONGEST COMMUNIST LABOR UNION IN CENTRAL AMERICA ESTIMATED TO HAVE ABOUT 12,000 MEMBERS, IT HAS BUILT ITS GREATEST STRENGTH IN THE BANANA REGIONS OF COSTA RICA. A NUMBER OF ITS LEADERS HAVE STUDIED IN THE SOVIET UNION AND EAST EUROPE. IT IS USUALLY THE FIRST UNION IN COSTA RICA TO SPEAK OUT ON NATIONAL ISSUES AFFECTING THE WORKERS. {CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN} // E - 2 IMPDET.H

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 157-75.4

NORTH KOREA: KIM IL-SONG RETAINS A FIRM GRIP ON THE WORKERS PARTY AS IT PREPARES TO CELEBRATE ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY ON OCTOBER 10. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, HOWEVER, THE NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY PREOCCUPIED WITH THE PROBLEM OF ASSURING THE PERPETUATION OF HIS REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGY AND HIS PERSONAL PRESTIGE.4

KIM HAS LAUNCHED CAMPAIGNS TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN PARTY ORGANIZATION AND INDOCTRINATION AND HAS BEGUN TO INTRODUCE A NEW GENERATION OF OFFICIALS INTO TOP PARTY AND GOVERNMENT POSTS. THESE PROGRAMS COULD ALSO BE USED--IF KIM SO WISHED--TO PAVE THE WAY FOR AN EVENTUAL TRANSFER OF POWER TO HIS SON, KIM CHONG-IL.4

SET UP IN POWER BY THE SOVIET OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES IN 1945, KIM WAS APPARENTLY NOT CONFIDENT OF HIS HOLD ON THE WORKERS PARTY UNTIL THE LATE 1950S, WHEN A SERIES OF PURGES REMOVED HIS LAST FACTIONAL

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RIVALS FROM THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE. IN THE SUCCEED-  
ING DECADE, KIM FILLED THE COMMITTEE WITH LOYAL COL-  
LEAGUES FROM HIS PREWAR, ANTI-JAPANESE GUERRILLA  
MOVEMENT.4

IN THE LATE 1960S, THE NEED FOR NEW SKILLS IN  
HANDLING SPECIALIZED PROBLEMS PROMPTED KIM TO BEGIN  
ADDING EXPERTS IN ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT AND FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS TO THE COMMITTEE. THEN, ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO,  
THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS--WHILE CONTINUING TO SEEK  
TECHNICAL EXPERTISE--TURNED ITS PRIMARY FOCUS TO  
DEVELOPING POTENTIAL REPLACEMENTS FOR TOP PARTY OF-  
FICIALS.4

MOST OF THE WORKERS PARTY SENIOR MEN ARE OLDER  
AND FRAILER THAN THE 63-YEAR OLD KIM, AND THE NORTH  
KOREAN PRESIDENT IS APPARENTLY SEEKING TO PUT IN  
THEIR PLACE YOUNGER OFFICIALS WHOM HE CAN FULLY IN-  
DOCTRINATE BEFORE LEAVING THE SCENE. IN SHORT, KIM  
IS ATTEMPTING TO INDUCE AND PRESIDE OVER A SIGNIF--

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ICANT GENERATIONAL CHANGE IN PARTY LEADERSHIP. SINCE  
A FULL POLITICAL COMMITTEE WAS LAST ANNOUNCED IN  
1970, KIM HAS ADDED NINE NEW FACES TO THE COMMITTEE;  
IN THE SAME FIVE-YEAR PERIOD THE PREMIER AND TWO  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC HAVE BECOME  
MERE FIGUREHEADS.4

ADVANCING AGE AND A GROWING AWARENESS OF HIS  
MORTALITY, RATHER THAN ANY ACUTE WORSENING OF HEALTH,  
PROBABLY PROMPTED KIM TO BEGIN TO SERIOUSLY ADDRESS  
THE QUESTION OF TRANSITION ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO. THE

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BROADER CAMPAIGNS TO STRENGTHEN ALLEGIANCE TO

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KIM AND TO TIGHTEN PARTY DISCIPLINE ARE PROCEEDING UNDER THE BANNER OF "DYEING THE WHOLE SOCIETY ONE COLOR." THE KOREANS HAVE BEEN EXHORTED TO REMAIN TRUE TO KIM'S IDEOLOGY "GENERATION AFTER GENERATION" AND WARNED TO HEED THE HISTORIC LESSONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT ON WHAT HAPPENS WHEN REVOLUTIONARY FERVOR IS LOST. ACCORDING TO ARTICLES IN 1974 AND 1975 ISSUES OF KULLOJA--THE THEORETICAL JOURNAL OF THE WORKERS PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE--THE CAMPAIGN IS DESIGNED TO UNIFY PARTY RANKS AND TO ROOT OUT THE LAST REMAINING CURRENTS OF THOUGHT THAT RUN COUNTER TO KIM'S TEACHINGS."

IN THIS COMMENTARY THERE IS LITTLE HINT THAT PYONGYANG IS CONCERNED THAT THE WORKERS PARTY MIGHT LOSE ITS GRIP IN A POST-KIM PERIOD. NORTH KOREA IS LIKELY THE MOST THOROUGHLY MOBILIZED SOCIETY IN THE COMMUNIST CAMP. OVER 25 PERCENT OF ITS ADULTS ARE MEMBERS OF THE PARTY, AND ALL YOUTHS OVER 14 MUST

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JOIN PARTY-SPONSORED MASS ORGANIZATIONS.4

THE REGIME IS, NONETHELESS, STRENGTHENING ITS DISCIPLINARY ORGANS. SINCE MID-73 KIM HAS PROMOTED WITHIN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE THE MEN IN CHARGE OF THE PARTY'S INSPECTION COMMITTEE AND THE CABINET'S STATE CONTROL COMMISSION, AND HE HAS REPLACED THE HEAD OF THE SENSITIVE GENERAL POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE KOREAN PEOPLES ARMY.4

IN FEBRUARY 1975, ACCORDING TO RECENT BROADCASTS, KIM INTRODUCED TO THE TENTH PLENUM OF THE PARTY. CENTRAL COMMITTEE A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTY'S LEGAL CONTROLS "OVER STATE AND SOCIAL LIFE." IN A SPEECH DELIVERED LAST JANUARY, KIM ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD ALSO UPGRADED THE WORK OF THE PARTY'S ORGANIZATION-GUIDANCE AND PROPAGANDA-AGITATION COMMITTEES.4

THESE TWO COMMITTEES HAVE PROBABLY PLAYED THE CENTRAL ROLE IN A CAMPAIGN, APPARENTLY ALSO BEGUN

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TWO YEARS AGO, TO PROMOTE KIM CHONG-IL, SON OF THE  
 NORTH KOREAN LEADER, TO POLITICAL PROMINENCE. IN  
 THE LAST FEW MONTHS, PYONGYANG OFFICIALS HAVE BEGUN  
 TO RESPOND TO VISITORS' INQUIRIES WITH CONFIRMATION  
 THAT KIM CHONG-IL IS THE SON OF KIM IL-SONG AND THAT  
 HE HOLDS HIGH POSTS. BEYOND THIS, LITTLE CAN BE  
 ESTABLISHED.4

BELIEVE THE YOUNGER KIM IS AN ALTERNATE  
 MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE, HEAD OF THE PARTY'S  
 PROPAGANDA AND AGITATION COMMITTEE, AND A SECRETARY  
 OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT. HE IS SAID  
 TO BE ABOUT 35 YEARS OF AGE, A GRADUATE OF KIM IL-  
 SONG UNIVERSITY. KIM CHONG-IL IS ALSO VARIOUSLY  
 REPORTED TO HAVE RECEIVED TRAINING IN THE SOVIET UNION  
 OR EAST EUROPE.4

OFFICIALS OF CHOSEN SOREN--THE GENERAL FEDERA-  
 TION OF KOREANS RESIDENT IN JAPAN--WHO RECENTLY RE-

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TURNED FROM NORTH KOREA TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE YOUNGER KIM'S PHOTO IS NOW DISPLAYED PROMINENTLY TOGETHER WITH THAT OF HIS FATHER. OTHER SOURCES CLAIM THAT NORTH KOREANS MUST STUDY THE WRITINGS OF THE SON AND PRAISE HIM IN SONG AND DISCUSSION.4

DESPITE THE WIDESPREAD KNOWLEDGE OF AND HOMAGE PAID TO KIM CHONG-IL IN PARTY ACTIVITIES, THERE HAS BEEN A PUZZLING ABSENCE OF REFERENCES TO THE SON IN THE NATIONAL PRESS. A CAMPAIGN TO HONOR HIS DECEASED MOTHER--BEGUN IN 1974 IN LITERARY JOURNALS--WAS RECENTLY ELEVATED TO THE PARTY ORGAN NODONG SINMUN AND MAY BE A SURROGATE CAMPAIGN FOR BUILDING UP KIM CHONG-IL.4

WITHHOLDING PRESS CONFIRMATION OF KIM CHONG-IL'S PROMINENCE MAY REFLECT TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS. TO DECLARE HIS SON HIS SUCCESSOR NOW WOULD LEAVE KIM IL-SONG IN A LAME DUCK STATUS AND MIGHT ALSO OPEN THE FIELD FOR MANEUVERING AGAINST KIM CHONG-IL BY

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INTEREST GROUPS NOT WILLING TO SEE ANOTHER GENERATION  
OF PERSONALITY CULT LEADERSHIP. ALTHOUGH IT COULD  
ALSO INDICATE THAT KIM HAS NOT YET MADE A DETERMINA-  
TION ON THE SUCCESSION ISSUE, RUMORS PERSIST THAT  
THE YOUNG KIM WILL MAKE HIS DEBUT AT THE OCTOBER LO  
CELEBRATIONS, OR WHEN NORTH KOREA CONVENES A PARTY  
CONGRESS IN THE NEXT YEAR OR TWO. {SECRET} E-2 IMPDET.H

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 157-75.4

1. PORTUGAL: THE EXTREME LEFT AND THE COMMUNISTS ON TUESDAY STEPPED UP THEIR CHALLENGE TO THE GOVERNMENT.4

HUNDREDS OF EXTREME LEFTIST SOLDIERS, AIDED BY THOUSANDS OF CIVILIAN SUPPORTERS, TOOK CONTROL OF A HEAVY ARTILLERY REGIMENT OVERLOOKING PORTO, PORTUGAL'S SECOND LARGEST CITY. THE OCCUPYING SOLDIERS, REASSIGNED OVER THE WEEKEND BECAUSE OF THEIR RADICAL POLITICAL VIEWS, HAD BEEN BEATEN BACK BY PUBLIC SECURITY POLICE ON MONDAY EVENING WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO REJOIN THEIR OWN UNIT. THE ARTILLERY UNIT NOW UNDER THEIR CONTROL REPORTEDLY CONTAINS AN ARSENAL OF 700 TONS OF LIGHT ARMS AND AMMUNITION.4

SEIZURE OF THE ARTILLERY UNIT REPRESENTS THE MOST SERIOUS THREAT SO FAR TO GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO RESTORE MILITARY DISCIPLINE. THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN BESET BY A SERIES OF SUCH INCIDENTS INSTIGATED BY THE EXTREME LEFT. THE COMMANDER OF THE NORTHERN MILITARY REGION TUESDAY NIGHT WAS REPORTED TRYING TO RESOLVE THE MATTER THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.4

IN LISBON, MAJOR DINIS DE ALMEIDA, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE

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EXTREMIST-CONTROLLED LIGHT ARTILLERY REGIMENT, CONTINUES TO BE THE PRINCIPAL AGITATOR IN THE PRESENT EFFORT BY THE FAR LEFT. AT A COMMUNIST-SUPPORTED DEMONSTRATION ON MONDAY, ALMEIDA ATTACKED THE PARTIES TAKING PART IN THE GOVERNMENT, BLAMING THEM FOR THE RULING MILITARY'S SUCCESSIVE FAILURES IN SOLVING THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES.4

THE GOVERNMENT ALSO IS BEING PUBLICLY CHALLENGED BY HIGH-RANKING MILITARY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO, A MEMBER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, TOLD A MEETING OF WORKERS' COUNCILS ON MONDAY EVENING THAT ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO IS A "MAN OF THE LEFT," ANYONE IS SUSPECT WHO CALLS FOR ORDER AND DISCIPLINE BEFORE THE REVOLUTION IS COMPLETED. ROSA COUTINHO ALSO MADE AN UNFLATTERING COMPARISON BETWEEN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND HITLER AND MUSSOLINI.4

THE COMMUNIST PARTY HAS NOT TAKEN THE LEAD IN THE CURRENT TURMOIL, BUT COMMUNISTS DID CONTRIBUTE TO THE TENSIONS IN LISBON ON TUESDAY WHEN THEY BROUGHT IN THOUSANDS OF WORKERS BY TRAIN TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT FOR A THREE-HOUR GENERAL STRIKE BY STEEL WORKERS.

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THE DEMONSTRATORS CONVERGED ON THE LABOR MINISTRY DEMANDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HONOR A WAGE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED WITH THE PREVIOUS REGIME.4

SUCCESSIVE CHALLENGES TO THE GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY BY LEFTIST MILITARY UNITS, BY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBER ROSA COLTINHO, AND MORE RECENTLY BY THE COMMUNISTS HAVE COMPLETELY FRUSTRATED PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO'S ATTEMPTS TO RESTORE DISCIPLINE AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER. THE EXTREME LEFTIST OPPOSITION APPEARS POORLY ORGANIZED, BUT THERE IS SERIOUS QUESTION NOW WHETHER THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT CAN MUSTER SUFFICIENT SUPPORT IN THE LISBON AREA TO HOLD OFF A CONCERTED DRIVE FOR POWER. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

2. EAST GERMANY-USSR: EAST GERMANY AND THE SOVIET UNION SIGNED A NEW 25-YEAR TREATY OF MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP AND ASSISTANCE IN MOSCOW ON TUESDAY TO REPLACE THE 20-YEAR PACT THEY HAD SIGNED IN 1964. THE TREATY DOES NOT MENTION EVENTUAL GERMAN REUNIFICATION, REFERS ONLY TO THE INVIOABILITY OF ALL POST - WORLD WAR II BORDERS, AND CALLS ON EAST BERLIN AND MOSCOW TO DEVELOP THEIR "TIES" TO WEST BERLIN ON THE BASIS OF THE FOUR-POWER AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1971. THE NEW

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TREATY PREDICTABLY REPLAYS THE EARLIER AGREEMENT'S WORDING THAT WEST BERLIN IS NOT A PART OF WEST GERMANY AND MAY NOT BE GOVERNED BY IT. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

3. EAST GERMANY: DISCUSSIONS AT THE 15TH PLENUM OF THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HELD IN EAST BERLIN ON OCTOBER 2-3, CENTERED ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE PARTY'S 9TH CONGRESS IN MAY 1976. THE PLENUM APPROVED THE POLITBURO'S REPORT ON ECONOMIC (SPECIFICALLY CONSUMER) POLICIES, GAVE A QUALIFIED ENDORSEMENT OF THE RESULTS OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE, AND PREPARED THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE 1975-76 PRE-CONGRESS ELECTIONS.4

ALTHOUGH PARTY CHIEF HONECKER'S KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON THE 3RD AND THE POLITBURO'S REPORT OF THE 2ND SELECTIVELY PRAISED THE SUCCESS OF THE EUROPEAN SECURITY TALKS, BOTH HONECKER AND HERMANN AXEN, THE PARTY'S EXPERT ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, INDICATED THAT SECURITY CONTINUES TO TAKE PREFERENCE OVER THE FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES AND IDEAS. FOR INSTANCE,

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AXEN STRESSED THAT QUESTIONS OF ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL COOPERATION CONTAINED IN THE HELSINKI DOCUMENTS "HAVE THE CHARACTER OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION MUST BE ACHIEVED IN SOVEREIGN DECISIONS OF THE STATES WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THEIR OWN LAWS AND THROUGH BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER STATES."4

IN THE ECONOMIC SECTOR, BOTH THE POLITBURO REPORT AND HONECKER'S SPEECH STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF CONSUMER GOODS AND THE STANDARD OF LIVING. THE POLITBURO STATED THAT THE RECENT HIGH RATE OF GROWTH IN EAST GERMANY IS ALSO THE FUTURE AIM OF THE PARTY. HONECKER DESCRIBED THE NEXT PARTY CONGRESS AS A "MILESTONE FOR OUR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT." {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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